

- I. Claims 1-7, drawn to a method of fabricating a piston...;
- II. Claims 8-13, drawn to a tooling for forging a blank...; and
- III. Claims 14-15, drawn to a piston....

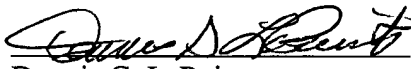
In accordance with the election requirement, Applicant elects:

**Group I, claims 1-7.**

The statutory basis of restriction practice under Section 121, provides that if two or more independent and distinct inventions are claimed in one patent application, the Examiner may require the application be restricted to one invention. This authority is discretionary, not mandatory. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that such discretionary authority not be invoked and the restriction requirement be withdrawn.

Very respectfully,

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